

Dear Parents and Carers,

Some of you may have seen my video that I published on Monday where I was talking about the Government announcement about the phased return of Year 10 and Year 12 students. We have been calling parents in these year groups to share what our plans will look like and the response has been overwhelmingly positive. The Prime Minister is going to make another announcement on 28th May, which may change the current stance. Nonetheless, please rest assured that we will keep you informed of how The Grove School and Sixth Form is responding to the announcements.

I am pleased to see that so many of your children are continuing to engage with their teachers and complete high-quality work, much of which on our [website](#). Do take a look as it will lift your spirits.

Wishing you all a happy half term.

Parent/Carer Survey

We really value your feedback and feel we have been working well with our pupils so hoping you can spare 5 minutes to complete the attached survey. Please click [here to take part](#).

Mrs Sonia Taylor
Headteacher



NOTICES

Home learning roundup

Another week has passed, and the students and families of The Grove School are continuing to excel themselves in embracing lockdown life.

Please visit our website for this week's home learning update and pictures of the fantastic work.

<http://groveschoolmarketdrayton.co.uk/news/school-news/>

5K Update

Thank you so much to everyone who has taken part in the #GroveCommunity5KChallenge so far. We have absolutely loved seeing your photos and hearing your stories, and hope the challenge is helping to lift your spirits during these times. As a bonus, to date we have received 105 donations towards the Market Drayton Foodbank, resulting in us smashing our original £1000 target, with the current pot standing at an incredible £1,572 and rising! We cannot thank you enough for your support, generosity and kindness. Remember it is still not too late to take part, just follow the steps below. The process is really simple:

1. Run, cycle, walk 5 km
2. Share your success with everyone by adding your results to the post on our Facebook page [@GroveSchoolShropshire](#)
3. Nominate 5 other people to do the challenge
4. [Click here to make an optional donation to Market Drayton Foodbank](#)

Half Term

Please be advised that the school will be closed for all students over the May half term. This includes emergency childcare for children of key workers.

Website

We have updated our website with some new pages in order for you to find information about home learning, school return and FAQs. Please pop over to www.grove-school.co.uk for more information.

While We Can't Hug

We saw this lovely video and thought we'd share it with you. [Click here to view](#).



Theatre

Recently, Mrs Gilpin, Associate Director of Performance Across the Trust had the opportunity to have a Zoom chat with Scott Graham, the Artistic Director for world renowned Theatre Company Frantic Assembly. The Zoom was a discussion about how Frantic Assembly used their inspirational physical approach to theatre making in order to bring the play **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time** from page to stage. Mrs Gilpin was joined by 3 other UK based Drama Teachers and the Dance Captain from the touring production of the play. Mrs Gilpin was able to get answers to some of the questions students often ask about Frantic Assembly and the A-Level Set Text of **Curious Incident**. Enjoy watching the Zoom, and make sure to go to Frantic Digital to see lots of rehearsal videos of the play. Enjoy!
<https://www.franticassembly.co.uk/frantic-digital/curious-1>

Stargazing

Below is an astronomical sightings which students may want to keep an eye out for:

- 27th May – Comet Swan visible to the naked eye.

Trust Update

The Government have issued guidance that schools can return from 1st June 2020. Whilst we never closed any of our schools and have been providing extremely extensive home learning, we are now in a position to work with our communities initially to bring back those children in **Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6** across our Primary schools and work to engage with students in **Year 10 and Year 12** across the Secondary schools.

We recognise as a Trust that this is a difficult time for staff, parents and children. We are committed to ensuring that we continue to work with our communities, maintaining the positivity.

Each school is working on the safest way to bring students back to school and will communicate plans as they are available to the specific year groups.

We appreciate your support and ask that you bear with us whilst we finalise our plans.

Mental Health Awareness Week

It is important to look after our mental health now, particularly more than ever and as such we have created a new webpage for our site with a focus on wellbeing – [here](#). It contains a helpful collection of resources, support information and advice on who you can contact both in and out of school if you are struggling.

#togetherwegrow

Teaching & Learning

Looking for some interesting things to try over the half term holiday? Try some of the activities below, suitable for all ages. Learn how to bake bread the way it was 2,000 years ago with this video tutorial:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYTUNXq1eBk>

Why not take a city break with a difference ... to the 7th Century city of Nineveh:
<https://blog.britishmuseum.org/historical-city-travel-guide-nineveh-7th-century-bc/>

Take a virtual tour around the Chelsea Flower Show: <https://www.rhs.org.uk/shows-events/virtual-chelsea>

Tune into the sounds of nature or explore your own special sunrise with the National Trust:
<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/things-to-do>

It might be difficult to know what to say to children currently, or how to answer questions. [Click here](#) for more information on how to talk about Covid-19 in a child friendly way.

Children do not necessarily feel reassured by phrases such as 'don't worry about it' or 'everything will be completely fine' as this leaves children to fill in the blanks themselves.

Try to be honest and open in your responses to the different questions that children may have. If you don't know the answer, it's fine to say so; you could always say that you will try to find out.

A good starting point is to use questions such as, "What do you want to know?" and "What questions do you have?"

Competitions & Challenges

History Competition: The Historical Association are running a 'Write Your Own Historical Fiction Competition 2020'. Winning students will each receive a cash prize, engraved paperweight and a year's free subscription to the Historical Association for their school. Entries close on Friday 26 June 2020, click [here](#) for more details.

History Competition: Focus Games Ltd are challenging all age groups to create a unique piece of work, drawing, poster, short story, video or artwork in order to celebrate 100 Great Black Britons and their legacy. Entries close on 30th September 2020, click [here](#) for more information.

Geography Competition: The Royal Geographical Society are running their Young Geographer of the Year Competition, asking students to submit entries based around the theme of 'the world beyond my window'. Full competition details can be found [here](#). **The deadline for receipt of all entries is Tuesday 30th June 2020 at 5.00pm.**

Marches Academy Trust Challenge: Professional boxer Tom Farrell is challenging students from across The Marches Academy Trust to complete as many burpees as they can in 30 seconds. Follow our [Facebook page](#) to find out more, take part and have the opportunity to win a medal.

WEBSITE QUICK LINKS



Please click on the following useful links to find out more.

- [News](#)
- [Home Learning](#)
- [Term Dates](#)



FACEBOOK

Please follow us on Facebook [@GroveSchoolShropshire](#) for supplementary home learning ideas, news, competitions and feel good stories. We also encourage you to share your ideas and interact with our posts!

For news from across the Trust, why not also follow [@MarchesAcademyTrust](#).

